Winship 5K Breaks Donation Record as Cancer Patients Stage Race Indoors

Bad weather on Saturday forced the cancellation of the 5th annual Winship Win the Fight 5K, but Winship Cancer Institute (Winship) patients being treated at Emory University Hospital carried on with the spirit and enthusiasm of the race indoors. Wearing hospital gowns and pushing IV poles, more than two-dozen patients and their caregivers participated in a .5K race on the 6th, 7th, and 8th floors of the hospital.

WSB TV reporter Mark Winne served as emcee, and along with doctors, nurses and corporate sponsors from Cox Enterprises and Peach State Freightliner, they cheered on patients as they completed 13 laps around each ward.

“Our patients show such courage every day and it was wonderful to see the smiles on their faces as they made something special out of their own Winship .5K,” says Walter J. Curran, Jr., MD, Winship’s executive director. “We were very disappointed about cancelling the outdoor Winship 5K event, but the safety and well-being of participants is our number one concern.”

Despite the change in plans, supporters raised a record amount of money for the Winship 5K with the total closing in on $750,000. Donations can be made up until November 16, 2015 at winship5K.emory.edu. The money will fund cancer research at Winship, Georgia’s only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center.

Collaboration Leads to New Research Scholar Grant

Collaboration between Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University and Georgia State University has resulted in a $792,000 Research Scholar Grant from the American Cancer Society. Winship member Charlie Garnett Benson, PhD is the principal investigator on the grant and Mohammad Khan, MD, PhD, assistant professor and Medical Student Clerkship director in the Department of Radiation Oncology, is the scientific consultant.

Benson is an assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Georgia State University and a member of the Discovery and Developmental Therapeutics Research Program at Winship developing novel therapeutic approaches for the detection and treatment of cancer. This grant will fund work in Benson’s lab to determine how T-cells are upregulated to fight colorectal cancers after radiation, and how radiation response can potentially be enhanced when combined with immunotherapy.
Congratulations

Colleen Lewis, NP has been promoted to Nurse Practitioner Lead of Winship’s Phase I Clinical Trials Unit.

Felicia Williams, NP has been promoted to Nurse Practitioner Lead of Emory University Hospital Midtown.

Healthy Winship

Healthy Winship invites you to attend a brown-bag lunch discussion focusing on breast cancer awareness on Oct. 13 from noon to 1pm at Emory Saint Joseph’s Hospital, classrooms 4 and 5. Presenters include Shannon Kahn, MD, Stephen Szabo, MD, Keerthi Gogineni, MD, and Michelle Ross, MD. For more information, contact Rebecca Heitkam at rebecca.heitkam@emoryhealthcare.org.

Breastival

The 4th annual Breastival will be held Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 4:30-6:30 pm in the John H. Kauffman Auditorium (C5012, 5th floor Winship). The event is free and open to Emory University and Emory Healthcare employees. Details will be coming soon on how to register for a free clinical breast exam. To register and for more information, call (404) 778-7777.

Lechowicz Named Rollins Chair in Cancer

Mary Jo Lechowicz, MD has been named the Margaret H. Rollins Chair in Cancer. Lechowicz, an associate professor in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, specializes in the treatment and care of patients with lymphoma at Winship. She also directs the Winship Summer Scholars Program, which provides high school students with a unique immersion experience in a cancer research laboratory.

Cyclist Rides With a Mission

Cyclist and crossfit athlete Amy Giver completed a cross-country journey on her bicycle to raise awareness for the Be The Match bone marrow donor registry. She wrapped up her journey at Winship’s Bone Marrow Transplant Center. Amy’s visit was extra special as her sister, Cynthia Giver, PhD, is a cancer researcher at Winship. Patients, physicians, nurses, staff, and supporters welcomed Amy upon her arrival.

Winship Announces New Developing Shared Resource

Winship members will now have access to a developing shared resource that will provide expertise in behavioral science methods. The new Intervention Development, Dissemination, and Implementation (IDDI) developmental shared resource is led by Michelle Kegler, DrPH, member of the Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program.

The purpose of IDDI is to support Winship members in developing, testing, and disseminating educational and systems interventions to prevent cancer, detect cancer early, or improve survivorship among residents of the state of Georgia. IDDI supports intervention research at all stages of development. The team’s strengths include formative research with diverse populations, intervention research, dissemination/implementation research, study recruitment, health communication, and community-engaged research.

The IDDI team is based in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education at the Rollins School of Public Health and the Winship Cancer Prevention and Control Research Program. In addition to Kegler, team members include Colleen McBride, PhD, Cam Escoffery, PhD, MPH, Sally Honeycutt, MPH, and Rebecca Woodruff, MPH.

For more information or to request IDDI services, please go to: winshipcancer.emory.edu/IDDI-shared-resource.